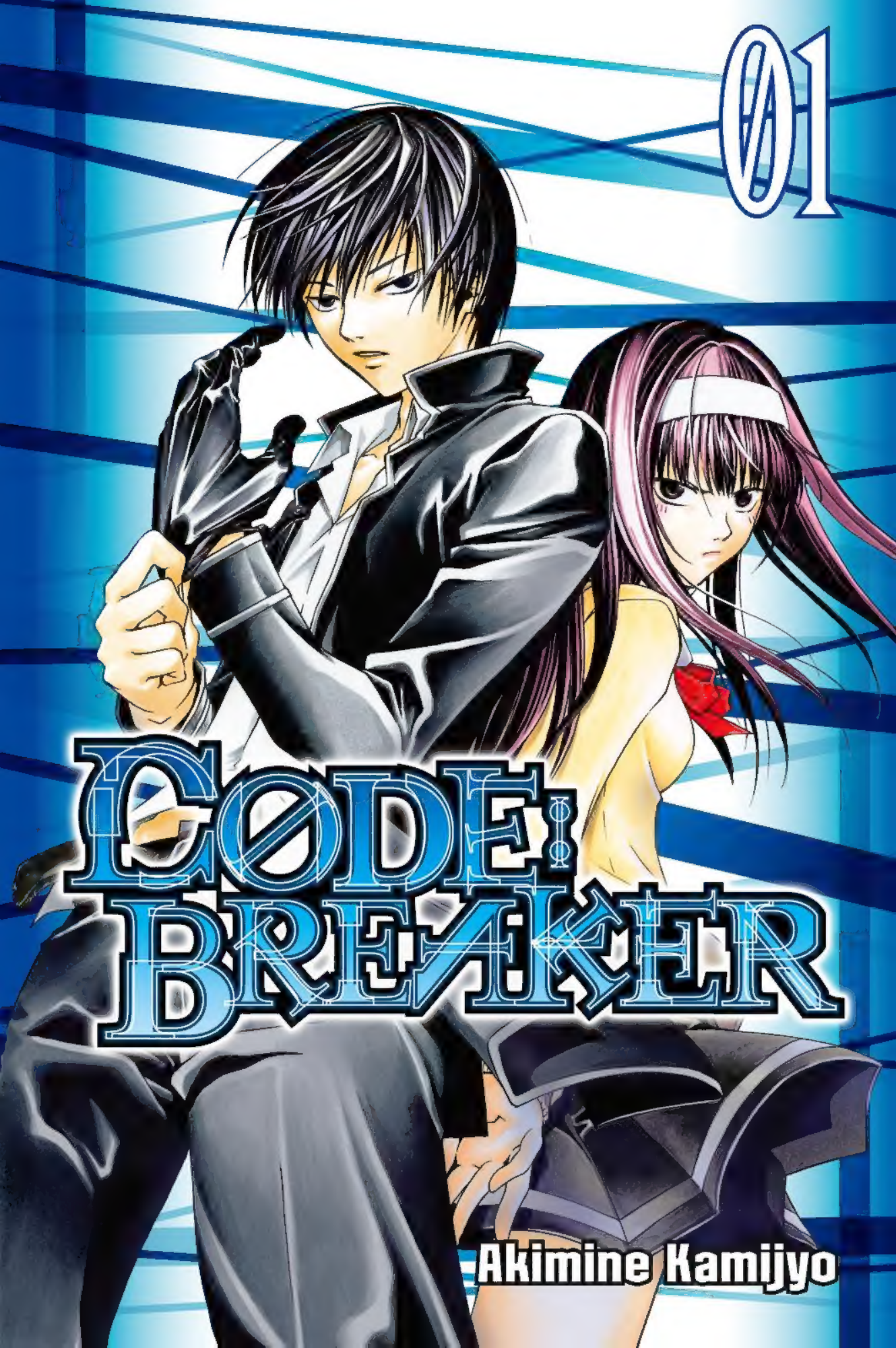
01
CODE: BREAKER
Akimine Kamijyo

Volume 1

Akimine Kamijyo

Translation and Adaptation by
William Flanagan

Lettered by
North Market Street Graphics

Cøde:Breaker, volume 1 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

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Honorifics Explained

In this manga book, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in our manga.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

SHHHH
BRUUUM
It's gotten so late tonight.
Hm?
Tomorrow, I'll have to go where "Dog" is. I'll bet it's hungry.
Eh?

GWOO
Are those people?!
Those people are burning?!
OOOH
AH!

There's...
...a violence and a quiet...
...a heat and a coldness...
...and a gentle aspect...
...a malevolence...

...to those
blue flames...

上条明峰
Akimine Kamijyo
CODE:BREAKER

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Sakura Sakurakôji-san...
I-I was wondering if you'd...like to go out with me?
Eh?! You want to know why... Well...
.....Why?
code:01
A Witness to the Beginning

TWITCH
Well, at school, I always see you reading under that tree...
And you look so happy at times. At other times, I see you moved with emotion...
You seem so delicate and frail. So pure and neat and high-class. Such gentle manners...
It makes me think how nice you must be...

Store House
Safety First
The only girls I ever see are the types who have iron nerves. The types you couldn't knock over with a ton of bricks!
But seeing you was the first time I ever felt as if there's a girl I'd like to protect!!
.....

What you saw wasn't actually me.
Unfortunately, it's not possible.
But what do you mean by "not actually you"...?
No, that isn't it...
Only a really stunning guy would have a chance with you, Sakurakōji-san...
Yeah.. Sure, it's not possible with me, huh? Ha ha ha...
Is that so...?
Is...
NOT POSSIBLE
Uwaaaah!!
Nakamura-ya Corporation
Cement
20kg
GLITCH

Are you all right?
Cement
Nakamura-ya Corporation
S...
Sure...
My power to help is limited, but I'll do what I can.
It's not possible for me to go out with you, but if you have any problems, call me.
E-eh? The school's the other way... Where...
Very well. I must be going. Excuse me.
To the scene of a murder.

CHATTER
CHATTER

...seemed like a boy not much older than I am.
The one who was probably the murderer...

So it seems what I saw last night wasn't simply my eyes playing tricks on me. I wonder if they caught the criminal?
This place is mobbed.

Eh?!
I'm so glad that nobody was hurt this time!
But this place can be scary! A homeless man was murdered in this park only a month ago!
And they haven't caught the one who did it yet, huh...?

Thank goodness! It was just someone's campfire!

Please... Let me through
That isn't right...
It wasn't... just a campfire, right? It's a murder case, isn't it?!
Eh...?
The police checked it out. It was a campfire.
It isn't just that there aren't any bodies, there aren't even bloodstains!

What's the meaning of this?!
What I witnessed last night...
That's impossible!
The murderer was a boy about the same age as myself. He was wearing some kind of uniform...
All of the victims had some sort of tattoo...
I saw it all...
A lot of people died!! Burned up in the fire!!
There's not one shred of evidence that a murder was committed here.
Not possible! I saw it with my own eyes!!
But since the murder of the homeless man last month, the police have been very diligent.
It's true that this park had become a haven for juvenile delinquents.
Miss...this time, there's no doubt about it. It was just a campfire.
Rest assured...

I am not telling a lie....
We police have put this area on top priority. You needn't lie just to motivate us...
I can see how a little missy like you would be worried, but you can relax!
ぽんっ
PLOP
H-hey... you...
Excuse me!
STOMP STOMP
Eh?
キーンコーン カーンコーン
Good morning!
Hi!

I saw a murder... I'm sure I even identified the murderer... What's going on...?!
Why? They're acting like nothing happened...!!

That's Sakurakôji-san?
Yeah!
Hey...

Good morning!!
She'd never go for you!
HA HA HA
When a girl looks that way, I want to protect her!!
But she looks troubled!
A classy girl!
She's so pretty! Just like the rumors say!

Oh, I get it! You were summoned this morning. Did he ask you out?
Eh? Oh, yeah. But that isn't it.
I know! I know!
POFF
GLOOM
Wh-what's with the doom-and-gloom face?!
Morn-ing.
Good morning! What are you doing there?
Aoba... Tsubomi...
But if they only knew her true face!!
Miss delicate, frail, and prim!! The girl who all the guys "want to protect," right?
Sakura Sakurakôji has been ranked the #1 most desirable girlfriend among first-year students!!
DOOOM
MUNCH MUNCH
HAAA
She's a martial artist maniac who downs a half liter of rice a day and is such an avid reader of Martial Artist Monthly magazine that she gets moved to tears!!
Aikido black belt, third level! Judo and karate black belt, fourth level! Gripping power of 51 kilograms!
Only your friends know the truth, huh?
I sure was shocked when I first found out!
That's the most moving fight I've ever read about!
Martial Artist

Why don't you show even a little interest in the boys?
Boys...? The murderer was a boy.
Something cool's happening today! ♡
Eh?
Sakurada-san you're cute today, too!
Say, Aoba... Do you really trust the Japanese police with all your heart?
Okay, Sakura. What book is influencing your attitude this time?
BLOOM
All right! Everybody take your seats!
BATTLE
Now, come on in!
All right.
He's here! ♡

Whaa...
Ôgami-kun's father manages a business overseas, so Ôgami-kun was forced to join our class a month late.
So from today on, he's a part of our class. Be sure to help him out, okay?
Now, Ôgami-kun, why don't you sit over there?
Yes, ma'am.
Wow! He's even better looking than I thought he'd be!♡ And he's the son of a foreign company's high management! Right on the money!
Foreigner-san, could you show me how the scissors work?
Sakura?
I'm Rei Ôgami. Nice to meet you all!

There's no doubt about it...
He's the boy from last night!!
SA DUMP
SA DUMP
So I wasn't mistaken about last night!!
Why would he be here...?!
But why?! What's going on?!
I believe you dropped this.
SST

Eh?
Wh...?
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
What's with that lousy transfer student?! He's making a play for Sakurakôji-san already?!
They're gazing into each other's eyes...
Wh-what's wrong with Sakurakôji-san?
Amazing! The transfer student saw Sakura's book, but it didn't shock him!
Don't mention it.
Thanks. This magazine is extremely important to me, so I appreciate it.
Monthly
The Fighting Artist's Dream Magazine!
Martial Artist
The Fighting Legend is Renewed!!

The transfer-student latecomer, Rei Ôgami, huh?
I hear he's been to all kinds of countries, but he speaks Japanese like a native! It's like he's super-global!
That's Aoba for you. An info clearing house!
Wow! He must be rich!
It's got to be one of those new types where you can use it anywhere in the world, and it's like a computer, too!
Did you see his cell-phone? I've never seen one like it!
It's like in the dramas!
One of those sudden plot twists!
Aoba, what is that glove about?
...Oh, that? Not even the teachers seem to know.
Now, let's see. What is just not right about him...?
Sakura, you're not eating today! You've only downed two of your rice balls!
STAAARE
He's the murderer from last night! I just know it!
Now he's going to school like nothing happened! It has to be some kind of disguise!

Fire!! So this Ôgami really is...
Burn?!
Or it could be something simple, like to keep him from getting sunburned.
I'd guess he's hiding the scars of a wound or a burn or something, maybe?
Ôgami !!
Could it be...?
Wow, I've never seen Sakura get this interested in a man! ♡
...There's something I'd like to talk to you about in private. Let's go out for a while.
A confession of love right off the bat?!
A...

KYAA
Hurry up! I hear they're on Building Two's roof!
TWO TWO TWO
You're kidding!! He must be the luckiest guy in the world!
Sakurakôji-san is going to tell a guy she loves him?!
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
Damn you!! Die! Die now, Ôgami!!
Awww! So the school's Madonna is already the property of that bastard transfer student?!
KYAA
You were at Takemi Park last night, right?
Okay, so what is it?
I'm going to be blunt.
...What did you do there?
I know it was you I saw there.

Then let me ask you this.
Your job?!
Last night...? Are you sure? I was at my job last night, but nowhere else.
Eh? What're they saying? I can't hear!!
That glove of yours...
Aren't you wearing it to cover some burn you got when you torched and murdered those men?

It isn't hiding anything?!
Eh...?
This is kind of like a protec-tion charm.
I hurt someone with this hand back when I was a child.
A certain someone covered my hand with ...to keep me from doing it again, and wearing it has sort of become a habit.

Student ID Book
Se Ogami!!
What's that...?
That's all.
You mean that's... all?
B-but... last night, I know I saw...
?!
Ogami!!
They look like good friends...
It's a little embarrassing, but I can't seem to throw it away.
Oh...my friends gave it to me just before I moved here.
I'd like to become good friends with everyone in this class, too!
So let's start by us being friends, Sakurakôji-san!

...but don't expect me to give up!!
I didn't expect this turn of events...
Wh-what's happened to Sakura?!
WHIMPER

Did that Ôgami bastard actually turn down Sakurakôji-san?! Is he an idiot or insane?! Well, his death will be his apology!!
Whaaaat?!
STOMP
STOMP
Sakura... Poor girl!!
I'm impressed, Sakura! Fight on!!
KLENCH
I'm going to stick tacks in his slippers for that!!

I'll find some way to catch him out!
I know it was him I saw last night!
STRAAAK
STRAAAK
STRAAAK

It's almost like she's a stalk—
Don't you dare say that!
S-Sakura……?
STRANGE
ぼ
AAH
……
Maybe I'll go ask him what it's like to live overseas!
Yeah, yeah! He seems like the nicest guy ever!!
……
But Ôgami seems like a pretty nice guy. That's a good thing!
Nice enough for Sakura to fall for him!
GLANCE
GLANCE
Dammit...!! I lost him!!

But I still wonder what it means that there was no evidence.
DOOOM
HUNCH
HUNCH
Well, since "Dog" is here, I come here every day anyway.

Blue flame burns hotter than red flame, and it doesn't come about naturally. You need gas or chemicals to produce it.

And what was that blue flame?

こそこそこそこそこそこそこそ
You never change, do you? Why don't you simply warm up to me?!
...
Is that how you show gratitude?!
Slapping the hand that helps you?!
So...it wasn't just me? You talk to everybody that way?

O-on your way home, you say?!
So this park is on your way home from school, too, Sakurakôji-san? What a coincidence!
Ôgami?!
So the criminal does return...
ô...

Oh, that. Sorry I don't fit your image.
"You're a girl I want to protect!!!"

You always speak like some feudal-era samurai. Really tough. It may be because you like martial arts, but it makes you sound like a guy.
Eh?
There's that kind of talk again.

No. That isn't it.
You never suck up to people. I think that's kind of cool.

Y-yes...
He doesn't like anybody, so...
A dog?
こっそり
SLINK
SET

I-it's nothing like that... It's just my family is a little strange, and...
SLUMP
がぁっ

Come here!
You're joking!
とてとてとてとてとてとてとてとて

You just... couldn't put your trust in people, could you...?

"You dropped this."
"I'd like to become good friends with everyone."
Ôgami!..

Don't slobber all over me now!

He actually doesn't seem like a bad guy.
Sakurakôji-san, what is its name?

But he was murdered a month ago by punks out hunting homeless people.
It's "Dog."
Nice name.
Is it a stray?
No... It used to belong to an old man...
ROLL
Before the end, while he was still alive, they set fire to his legs.
And the police found he'd been stabbed countless times.
They beat him until he was unrecognizable.
They say the gang that did it is called the G-Falcons.
They all have a tattoo of a falcon somewhere on their bodies, and rumor has it they're involved in everything from shoplifting to armed robbery, from drug pushing to murder.
They're experts at destroying evidence, and they have a branch group that makes sure people stay quiet through threats of wanton violence, so few have ever been caught.
On top of that, more than half of them are minors, so even when one or two are caught, they don't do any serious time. And the minute they're let out, they go back to their old habits. It's a vicious cycle.

Even so, at the start, their crimes were so ghastly, everyone was horrified and expected they'd be captured quickly.
But in the end, crime after evil crime became so commonplace, people sort of got used to it.
Then...
...there was that old man living between society's cracks.
I think... he seemed like a nice man.
But I never tried to speak to him.
And he died without anybody knowing who he was...

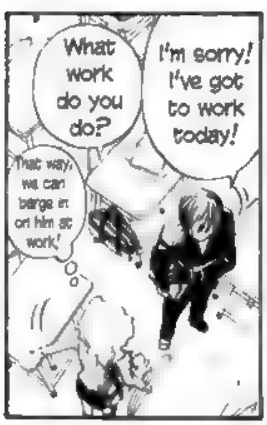
As long as you don't forget, Sakurakōji-san.
Eh?
But I'll bet... nobody even remembers that old man very well anymore.
The only one who waited for the old man was Dog. It's still waiting.
The rest of the world can forget completely, as long as you don't.
I won't forget, either. No matter what. I'll never forget.
Yes... For the really evil ones...
Eh?!
Also, those guys don't need this country's laws.
He says some odd things.
I-is that so...?

An eye for an eye.
A tooth for a tooth.
And evil for evil. You know?
Eh?
Wh-what are you talking about...?

But "evil for evil" wasn't in it, Ôgami!
It's a history lesson.
Ah! You mean the Code of Hammurabi?
Bye.
It must be tough for a transfer student in a new, unfamiliar place
Here I go giving him the third degree and making trouble for him
Ah... F-forgive me...
I didn't mean to give that impression...
I was beginning to think you didn't like me.
Eh?
I finally see a smile.
See you tomorrow at school.

Ahh!! It's finally over!
キーンコーンカーンコーン
DONG
DONG
Say, Ôgami-kun!
Kamata's afternoon class seems to take forever!
I slept through the whole thing!
Want to go somewhere after school?

I've got coupons that give us a discount if there're five or more people!
I was wondering if you'd like to come along to karaoke with us?


What work do you do?
I'm sorry! I've got to work today!
That way, we can barge in on him at work!

Just who do you think this karaoke is for?! This is your big chance to deepen your relationship with Ôgami-kun!!
?

Hold it!!
I have other errands today, so...
STOMP
STOMP
GRAB

I work for a cleaning company. We clean out trash!
"I'd like to become good friends with everyone!"
But invite me again some other time!
Eh?
A depressing job like that doesn't suit him!
BRRING
And speak of the devil. They're calling me.
PEEP
Hey! When did you and he get to be such great friends?!
Eh?! What was that?!
?
SHAKE
SHAKE

What do you want?
She doesn't seem like she'll be trouble. However…
And may I ask what you intend to do about the female?
Under-stood!
Make all the necessary arrangements.
Yes, I know. I'll clean up the rest of the trash today.
And then…

Oh, gawd! Today I...
This... um... Sakura Sakurakôji-san.
It isn't like anything special has to be done.
I'll make her go away just like I've done with everybody else.

I'm lucky today! ♡
Wow! She's cute!
GYAAA
?!
Why are you always on the verge of running away?!
CLICK CLICK
...
Come on and warm up to me, you!
TWITCH
SMOOSH

You get on my nerves. You really do!
GOWCH
A... Am...
You're in the park, too. So tell me about them!
But I hear they're here in the park.
Y'see, there's been a bunch of G-Falcons that I haven't been able to get in touch with for the past few days.
Combustible Garbage
...Who the hell needs you anymore?!
I-I don't know anything...J-just don't trash my house...there're plenty of other places you can...
Huh?
Oh, okay. Then...

Die!!
Hya ha ha ha!!
Ag--!!
GNNCH
Die! Die!! You trash!!
Ahya ha ha ha!!
GNNCH
H-hey, Ken-san...
So where the hell are they?
What are we gonna do with him? We can't get any more info out of him like that.
HA HA HA
SKETCH
TWITCH
TWITCH
Hey, Yûya! What game are you playing at?
TWEAT
Hya ha!!
GNNCH
GOMK
Huh?
SHLAKK
Did my earring fall out, or...
Wha...?
KACHIN
Ahya ha ha ha...
Yû...
Hey, Yûya!
Now that's just gross! Ha ha ha ha ha!!
This is too good!! He's pissing in his pants!!
Stop it, Yûya.
DRIBL

DOOOM
Didn't I tell you to stop.?!
A...
Ahah...
You don't need any ears that can't hear the words of Ryôji-sama!

P-please don't kill us...
We got no place to live...and we don't have the money for a hospital...
ROLL
Oww...
WW
ww
W...
SMASH
Gwaah!!
Now get ready to die!!
"Don't kill us"?! Why not? Who'll care if we throw out some of society's trash!
...aa...
BANG
Hyaa
...aa...
GULP

You can stop picking on the weak!
I'm contacting the police right now, so just wait here quietly!
Gah...
Gh...
We're already touchy since we can't find our buddies. We might kill you to work off steam!
She sure is annoying.
Who's the girlie?
Gahh !!
Eeee!!
Huh?
TWITCH
Hey, girlie! How do you know what night our buddies went missing?!
You know something about it, don't you?!
So what happened the night before last was...
Your gang members... are missing?!
?!

Eh?!
PEEP
I got nothing to say to you!!
Wha–?!
VACCHI

How dare you throw me?!
TWITCH
TWITCH
What...?
!!
SLUMP
I asked you a question, and you're going to answer!!
A stun gun?!
VCHT
VCHT
We'll get it out of you one way or another!!
Hey, gimme your belt!
Tie her up!

Trying to help them out just makes you look dumb!
You'd have done better to leave those homeless guys to die!
Girlie, you sure are stupid!
TWITCH
TWITCH
I-I can't move!!
Hen hen neh!
Hey! Girlie's got a nice body!
She says she's squealing to the police! Let's spread pictures of her all over the Net as punishment!
FLASH
FLASH
Gah?!
D-Dog?!

What was that for, you damn dog!!
Gyaoo!!
What's that dog think it's doing? Trying to save the girl?!
!!
Stop...
Hya ha! We can play soccer!
Sounds like fun!
You piece-of-crap dog!!

Stop it!!
Gwaah !!
Ha ha ha!!
S-stop it right now!!
What's the dog got to do with anything? I'm the one you want information from, right?
Hya ha ha!! What's with this girlie?!
She must have no idea what's in store for her!
Worrying about some mutt!!
What an idiot!!

Hold on...
I'll bring you to a vet and—
D-Dog...

This girl's got some nerve...
Ryôji-san...
If you want to be kicked around instead of the dog, then we can do that.
KACHIN
Once we've heard what we want to hear, we'll make sure you can never show your face in public again!!

Does it hurt...?
Who's that?!

Ô...
Ô...gami...?!
You've got broken bones all over your body, internal bleeding, multiple lacerations, and you've lost too much blood.
Don't move any more. It's a miracle you've lived this long as it is.
But you wanted to do anything you could to protect Sakurakôji-san, didn't you?
You did your job well.
I see. You're in great pain.
Is it really that unbearable?
Then I'll put you at ease.
SWISH

Grrrr
Ôgami!!
What are you...
You're Ôgami, right?!
Ôgami, you have to get it to a vet!!
Quicky...

KRAKK

Ôgamiii!!
You...
...ga...
mi...
ô...

You had to go and kill the doggy all by yourself? You're sooo scary!
You must be some mass murderer!!
Oh, I mean mass dog murderer! Er- heh heh heh!
With it dead like this, you can kick it, and it doesn't whine or anything. And that's no fun—
But it's such a shame! We could have played with it for at least a few more minutes!

Burn to ashes!

ゴオオ…
…Aaaa

You see, I work for a company that cleans out the trash.
Wh-what?!
But I have one final question.

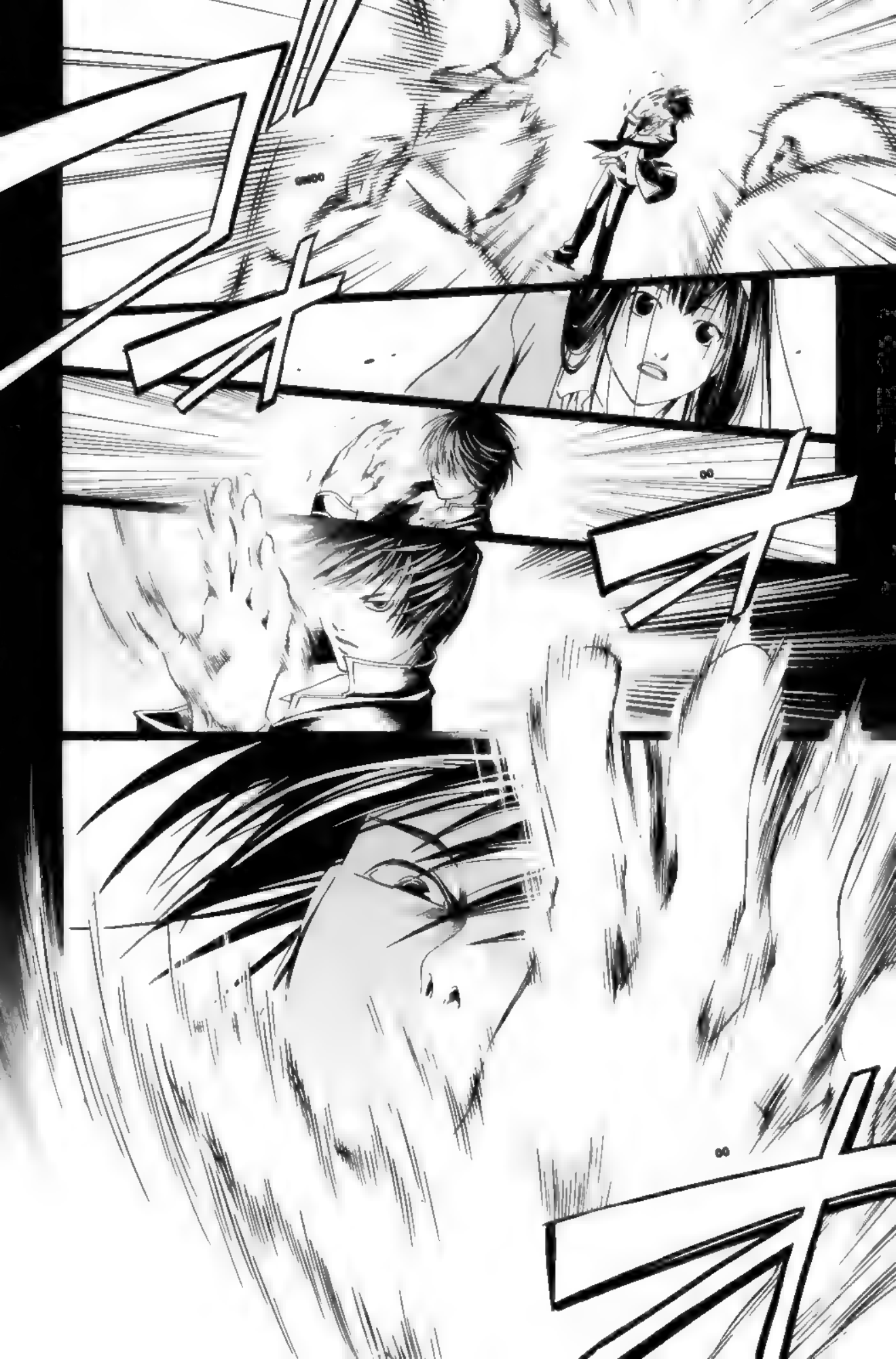
Would you go turn yourselves in to the law?
Or would you rather die here?
What's your preference?
You see... either way works for me.
We're G-Falcon! You don't mess with us!!
Don't give us that crap!! You're the one that's gonna die!!
Wh...
Wha...
D...
We're gonna do to you what we did to that dog!!

Ah, I see...You choose to die here.
There's...
...a violence and a quiet...
...a heat and a coldness...
An eye for an eye!
A tooth for a tooth.
...a malevolence...

And evil for evil!
...a cruel blue flame...

What the hell is this guy...?!
He's on fire...
CODE: BREAKER
His hand... It's on fire...
So it really was you that night...?
Ôgami...

code:02
Unforgivable
You're the one that's gonna die!!
Burn to ashes!
Don't gimme that!! You murdered Tōya!!
You bas-tard!!



Miss!!
Miss!!
Can you hear me?!
What are you doing in a place like this?
Are you all right?
Urh...

Miss, can you hear me?
What... time is it now?
Right now! What hour? What minute? How long have I been unconscious here?!
Eh? Eh? Um...maybe about 9:50...?
Where's Dog?! Where are those G-Falcon gang members?!
And where...

No, before you answer that, the G-Falcon gang was beating up on homeless guys...
then they hit me with a stun gun... And after that...
What fire?
A blue flame...?!
!!
ZHAM
Miss, are you okay? What happened to you? I was called here because of another fire, but there's no trace of it...
There!!
That's where he was...!!
EH?
No, nothing like that... But he burned one of them down.
Then the rest got angry, and they all rushed him, and then...
And then...
Blue flame? What do you mean, "from his hand"? You mean he had a lighter or something?
He burned people up!! It was him! With a blue fire coming from his hand!!
And in a second, they were burned to cinders!!

And then...
What happened then...? I can't... I can't remember anything after that...
...Are you all right? Um...you're saying you saw the campfire that was lit here?
It wasn't a campfire!! People burned up...They were murdered!! It's true! That part is the truth!!
But why...?
A-are you okay?
H-hey what are you talking about?
Why did everything disappear without a trace?! What went on here?!
...Huh? Aren't you that girl who was screaming "murder" the other day?
I think you should come to the station with me.
I wonder about your outfit.
What happened after that? My only clue is Ôgami... I have to confront him and find out what happened!!
It's him! Rei Ôgami...!!!

!!
Wait!! I am not...
Ah!!
Wait a...?!
Eh? What's going on over there.
Oh, no! Somebody's assaulting that girl!
Isn't that a policeman assaulting her?
!!
You're coming with me! You're going to tell me all about it!
Kyaaaaa!!
Pervert!!
Hey, you...!!

In the equation, $x=\frac{-b\pm\sqrt{b^2-4ac}}{2a}$
...the portion under the √ sign is called the discriminant.
And since the discriminant is b -4ac...
Ôgami was rushed by all those awful G-Falcon gang members...
...That policeman didn't know anything, so all I could do was come to school.
Sakurakôji! You're late! Why?
I wonder if he's okay...
BATTLE?

What happened, Sakurakôji?
Sakurakôji?
.....
ドド

After that...
I remember...

Gyaaah!!
Gyaaah!!
I-it's not going out!!
Oww!!
It isn't going out
The fire... The fire isn't going out!!
P-please, put it out, dammit!!
It's burning me!!
I'm burning up!!
Agaghh!!
It's so hot, can't breathe.
The hot gusts. . I'm losing consciousness What can I do

That's the most horrible fire I've ever seen! The blue fire doesn't put out a sound, or a smell, or smoke...
It burns the person, and everything else in just seconds...!!
Gyaaa
aaaa...
The fire...
...really hur...
It hurts...
This fire really hurts!!
POFF
POFF
P...
Please help.

Eee !!
Gyaaah !!
Uwaah !!
I thought I had enough ..
SHIVER
SHIVER
Y you gotta be kid-ding...
Every-body... dead...?
SHIVER
SHIVER
SHIVER
SHIVER
.to .
SCRATCH
SHIVER
I'm...
I'm begging you...
HAHH
HAHH
HAHH
S-so, come on!! So let me live!!
I-I mean it!! I really won't...
I promise I won't kill homeless guys any-more...
SUUU
Please! I'm begging!! Don't kill me!!

Burn to ashes!

Exactly the opposite of the heat of his flame.

It was like somebody swatting a fly or mosquito. He did it half in annoyance, half in boredom.

!!
WHOOSH
KRAKK
ゴゥン
Sakurakôji!
POFF
What are you trembling for...?!
Are you all right, Sakurakôji-san?!
What's the matter?!
PANIC PANIC
S-Sakurakôji?!
Wait a minute! Sakura!
TWIRL
He murdered them all!! He burned them dead!!
I remember... Ôgami...

Why is he at school, acting like nothing happened?!
What was that blue fire...? No, more important, why is he here?!
ガタ
SHIVER SHIVER
I saw it!! It was real!!
SHIVER SHIVER
And even against that awful G-Falcon gang, he never got a scratch. In an instant he...
ニコ…

Man, I'd like to come to her rescue!
It's like she's even more delicate than usual.
Could she be having fainting spells?
Sakuraköji-san, are you okay?
I'm fine. Sorry to have worried you.
KLNCH
Sakura...are you sure you're okay? You've been staring vacantly at the sky all day!
Oh that...
I texted you last night, but you never sent a reply. What's going on?
Besides, it's the first time I've ever seen you come late to school!
And here you're in a jersey for some reason.

GATAAAAN
!!
Aoba, I never went home last night. Could you cover for me by saying I slept over at your place?
New Japanese History B
No...
GAKI
If you want a reason, then ask Ôgami!
E-eh?! Wha—?! Why?!
THAT CAN'T BEE-EEE !!
Sakurakôji-san, your hot passion has won me over. Tonight I will not allow you to go home!
Ôgami... I've tried, but I just can't stop thinking about you!
Y-you mean Sakurakôji-san and Ôgami were...?!

I must've passed out, because I don't remember anything after that.
So why didn't he just kill me with all those others?
Why is Ôgami here at school?!
He knows I saw him commit murder. So why...?!
Say it ain't so! Please...
N-nooo...
STARARE
Your stare is burning holes!
Maybe it's *because* nobody would ever believe me...
Even I doubt my own eyes. How can I expect the police to believe me?
But the murder scene was cleaned up leaving no trace of what happened. And what did happen, a boy shooting blue fire from his hand, is impossible.

Aoba...

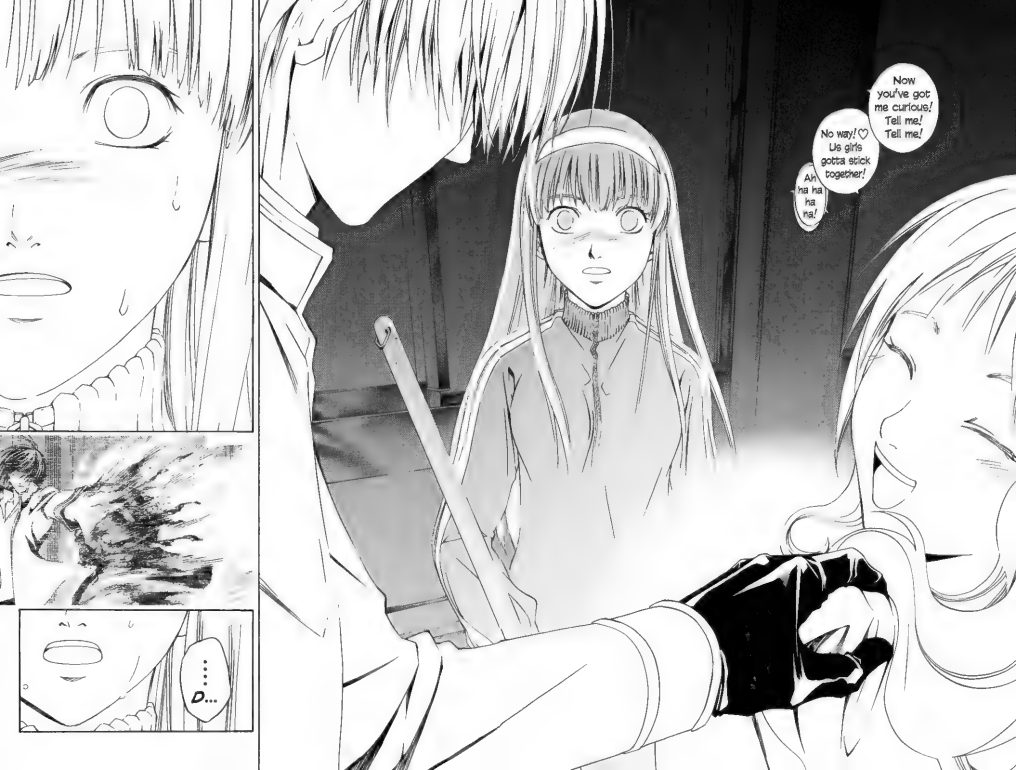
Actually... I need to talk to you about Ôgami.
What? What is it? What do you want to tell me?
Here it comes! ♡

Sakuraaa! You're spacing out big-time again...
You really are acting strange today. Why don't you tell me what happened.

Ôgami took some people and set fi—
.....
You may not believe this, but I saw it with my own eyes!

Ah! Ôgami-kun!
You're the duty person today, right? I have a question or two...
Excuse me, Takatsu-san...
Did what with some people...?

Eh?
Don't get your hopes up! It's a secret! ♡
Ehhh? Tee-hee! ♡ Sakura was, you know, saying something about you and...
...Eh? Wait a second! What's that about?
You really surprised me! Speak of the devil and...


Now you've got me curious! Tell me! Tell me!
No way!♡ Us girls gotta stick together!
Ah ha ha ha ha!
D...

Don't……!!
Aoba, don't ever touch him!!
S... Sakura……?

He'll burn you to cinders...!!
Don't ever lay a finger on Ôgami!!

D...
Wha...?
Don't worry!! Oh, Sakura, what are you thinking?!
No need to panic! I'd never tell him your secrets!!
No need to get all territorial just because he put a hand on her shoulder! You're more possessive than I thought you could be!
You're the one burning! With jealousy!!
Does she love Ôgami that much...?!
You're so in loove!! ♡ Sakura!! ♡
Eh...?!
N-no... That isn't what I meant...
Sakurakôji-san...

What are you talking about? Let me in on the secret, too, huh?
Th-that little...
Was he watching me all this time to make sure I don't go talking about him?! And if I do talk...
...he'll bring flaming death to whoever I confide in! Is that his message?!

Maybe you'd better go home and get some rest.
Come to think of it, she hasn't looked healthy all day.
Here, I'll walk you home.
Sakura...?
Are you all right, Sakurakôji-san? You're looking a little pale.
S-Sakura...?!
Th.s s bad... The people at school are in danger...
No thanks.
Ôgami-kun, would you walk me home?
With pleasure!

CHATTER
What's going on with those two?
I guess they're going out after all, huh?
Dammit!! Ôgami's dead!! Dead!!
CHATTER
Look! They're a couple! He's walking her home!
The school's idol, Sakurakôji-san, and the transfer student who they say turned her down, Ôgami!!
CHATTER
She's walking three steps behind him!
I knew Sakurakôji-san had perfect manners! ♡
You're keeping me in front of you? You don't have to be so cautious. It's all right.
...
I'm going to see you home, safe and sound!
So you admit that you did something that I should be cautious of, Ôgami?

CHATTER
CHATTER
AND THEN...
Shibuya Station
Well...So this is Shibuya...?
It's as busy as its reputation says.

If we're here, I don't endanger my classmates, and you can't make any suspicious moves.

So, Sakurakôji-san... where was your house again?
This isn't where my house is.
Eh?

Shibuya Police:
Shibuya Station Police Box
CHATTER
JEEE
CHATTER
MURMUR
This place has many watching eyes.
Ôgami.
No, it's true! It's all true!
You're joking!
Oh, Gawd!
Don't try to evade—
Yes, I did.
CHATTER
CHATTER
You murdered the G-Falcon gang members, didn't you?
With that mysterious blue flame of yours.

I murdered every one of them.
So, what about it?

I'm evil.
I'm worse than all of them.
Yeah, I did it. I admit it.
In fact, I never said one word to deny it.
Do...Do you know what you're saying?!
It's my job. Besides, what's wrong with disposing of trash?
The world's better without them in it. If they were alive, they wouldn't be of any help to anybody. They're pests, like the insects you step on.
What?!
I-insects?!
So you're saying that because they committed murder...
...it's okay to murder them?!
That you're some champion of justice?!

Shibuya Police Station Police Box
If you really think so, then turn yourself in to the police!
And serve your sentence!! I'm sure they'd take mitigating circumstances into account...
Evil...
Shibuya Station
What's so funny?!
Ôgami, you...
Wha...?
Serve my sentence...?
You really are happy in your ignorance, aren't you, Sakurakôji-san?
Do you really understand what you did?!
You killed... You took people's lives from them!!

You're treating all life-forms just like bugs...
KATAK
Don't you feel anything?!
ガシッ
KATAK
Ôgami... You...
KATAK
ガシッ
ぴゃあああ
KOYAAAA

ぴあ
Taku-chan? Taku-chan, what's wrong?
あ
I'm sorry. I was shouting, and...
あ
むあ
あ
You were just looking for this, right?
きゅ

Thank you so much!
RATTLE RATTLE
Taku-chan, aren't you glad the nice man helped out?
GIRL
にぱっ
...what makes you tick...?!
Ôgami...
PONT
PONT
...but I don't care how bad they were, you don't have the right to pass judgment! Go quietly and accept the law's punishment.
I have no idea why or how you murdered those guys...
Ôgami...

……?
What's that supposed to mean...?
……
The law's punishment?
I'm afraid that isn't possible.
SUU
This is why. There are those who can be punished by the law, then there are the "nonexistent" Code: Breakers like me!
The law has no power to touch me.

Even if I were to commit murder by setting fire to someone in the middle of a crowded crosswalk in broad daylight, no law would punish me.
What...
...does that mean...?!

All witnesses would be made to vanish.
Burn to ashes, Sakura Sakurakôji.

All witnesses would be made to vanish.

Burn to ashes, Sakura Sakurakôji.
You're kidding! That's wicked!
Really ?
You wanna go to kara-oke?
Before we do that...
CODE: BREAKER
code:03
The Flame Woman

Wh-what are you trying to say...?
Th-that you'd burn all these people right along with me...?
DOOM
DOOM

DOOM
Drip
DOO

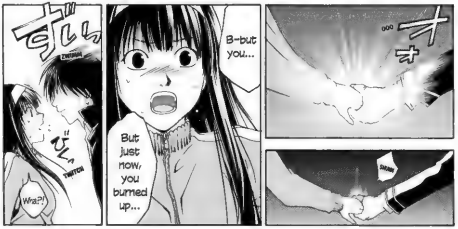
Stop it!!

DWOOO
Whoa!
That's hot!!
It came flying from somewhere around here!
CHATTER
CHATTER
Shouldn't somebody call the fire department?
Hey, somebody's bag caught on fire!!
DWOOOO
That's not good!
He...
H...
Wow...
It's gone to ashes in just a couple of seconds!
CHATTER
CHATTER
SHOO

Is he actually trying to kill me?!
Don't come this way! You're in danger...
Stay away...!!
おおと!!
What? There's a fire?!
!!

No...
Don't...
Burn to ashes.
Stop it!!
POWER RECORDS

Just kidding!

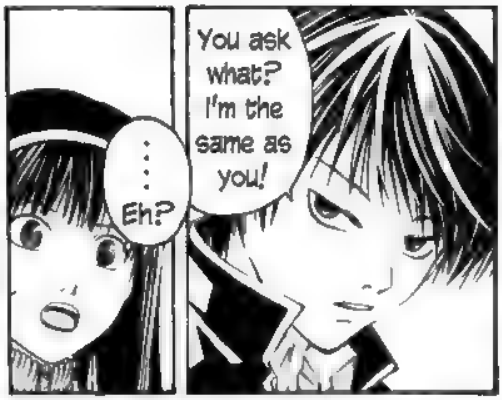

ずしっ
Embrace
ぎゅっ
Hold
What?!
But just now, you burned up...
B-but you...
ooo
オォ
Blaze

I'm not going to kill you. If I was going to, I'd have burned you down last night.
Shiver
Shiver

Interesting.
Eh?
むに
むにゃ
むにゃ
むにゃ

You're a Deviant Breed. No doubt about it!
Interesting!
But it's fascinating that she looks and feels normal... Interesting!
S-stop talking about me like I'm some kind of bug!! What are you trying to say...?
Could it be what she feeds on? Where she was spawned? Her habitat? Amazing! I never expected a Deviant Breed to show up...
Deviant...?!
What?!
I-I don't get you! You murdered a bunch of people last night with that weird blue flame of yours, but today...
D-did you let me live just to make fun of me?!
What can be going through your mind?!
I have no idea what's going on in his head!!
H-he was about to murder me in cold blood, and now this! How can a guy change like that?!
H-hey, are you even listening to me?!

ゴォォォ!!
You should have thought it yourself yesterday.


You ask what? I'm the same as you!
Eh?
……

They killed a homeless old man, and without remorse, they went and tortured other homeless people and killed this Dog of yours.
That G-Falcon gang.

There might be a lack of evidence, or they're juveniles, or they're diagnosed with a mental disorder... Criminals who should be serving time, but for whatever reason, they avoid punishment completely.
There are other people who deserve the same. Killers or robbers who commit their crimes and get away with them. The most hardened of criminals.
The ones who naturally deserve death.

It's only natural that they die.

It's my job to clean out those pests.
I'm here to maintain this false peace that you people so happily live under.
FLASH
We are the evil that punishes the evil the law fails to punish. That's us, the Code: Breakers.

You've never felt waves of guilt when stepping on a cockroach, have you?
It's no problem.
This is just the same.
S-stop talking nonsense...
You've got at least one you're thinking of. Somebody who may not be evil, but you wish were dead, right?
Who? Tell me who the insect is and I'll perform an extermination!
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
Come now... tell the truth.
Just whisper the name of the person you'd like killed...
Now!
S...
STUDD

Stop it!!
FAB
ARP
WHISK
CHATTER
CHATTER
What's that all about?
A lover's spat?
I'd never allow that...
That's pretty prudish
You'll never be fashionable with that attitude
Murder is out of the question...!!
I don't care who the person is...
I can't allow it!!

Well, whatever. I'm just doing my job, cleaning out pests.
...
Why are you so...
It's got nothing to do with you...So there's nothing to talk about!!
STAR BUCKS COFFEE
But there's one thing I will say:
If you ever get the urge to tell anyone else about me, I will erase not only you, but whoever you talk to and everyone in the area.
ZT
?!
Y-you wouldn't be able to...

Th-the glass is getting wavy...?!
I-is this from the heat of his flame...?!
PITCH
PITCH
PITCH
KRACHA
KRAKA
KRAKK
Anytime.
Anywhere.

I will make exceptions for no one!
I will burn them all to ashes!

What?!
Kyaaa!!
Oh God!!
The glass is shattering!!
CHATTER
CHATTER
If there had been people below, they'd be dead!
That's not supposed to happen, right?
Wait. That was close...
Those eyes!..
Nobody can run from me!
It's still dangerous! Stay away!
Stay back!
Is there anybody wounded out here?
There is no one who can help you. Your laws have no effect on me.

Yes, those eyes...
Cold, quiet eyes. Cruel eyes that will bore a hole right into your heart.
The eyes of Death himself.
Emotionless eyes that don't see human life as life and don't see murder as murder.

But what about then?
But...
KRAKK
KLINCH
Is that supposed to be the same as stepping on a cockroach?
"Then I'll put you at ease."
"Is it really that unbearable?"
"I see. You're in great pain."
It seems you're well recovered, aren't you, Sakurakôji-san?
What kind of eyes were you making at that point?
Ôgami...

Do you think you can make it home without an escort?
Eh?
And that fire, I want to know...
W-wait, Ôgami!! I haven't heard about what the heck you are!!
Sakura-kôji-san...
I see. Good. Then I'll be going.
Um... Yeah... Yeah, I'm fine.
Come to think of it...
Ah...
Hold it!!
You weren't... feeling too good, right?
I have the feeling you'd better go home and rest. That's enough for today, right?
FLIP
FLIP
So he doesn't intend to answer, huh?

A real-life grim reaper hides behind a smile and disappears into the crowd.
CHATTER
CHATTER
Take care! See you!
Just like when he was acting as if nothing happened!
See you tomorrow at school...
Ôgami... just who the heck are you...?!

Yes. I decided not to dispose of her.
I changed my mind. There's nothing one woman can do anyway.
Besides, she's a *Deviant Breed*, too valuable to kill.
So we're all going to leave her alone for a while.
Yes. A *Deviant Breed*. And a fine specimen, too.
I tested her, and there's no doubt.
That girl...

That girl... won't burn.
Not even with my fire.

So I'm supposed to be a high school student.
But don't you think Asuo has a better rack?!
I-diot!
BLUSH
PEEP
I want an investigation now.
Yes.
Since there's a Deviant Breed there, it isn't too bad.
Tomorrow doesn't look as dull as it might have been.

Kamijyo Info

Yo! It's Akimine Kamijyo! Nice to meet you! I want to take this opportunity to thank you for picking up *Code:Breaker*, volume 1! And if you have fun reading it, that would make me very happy!

This manga falls right into the genre of the Dark Hero. But these days, the term "Dark Hero" is rather vague and undefined, or at least that's how Kamijyo thinks of it.

Whether you agree or disagree with the opinions of Ôgami or Sakura or any of the other characters is strictly up to you! My intention is to draw my stories without succumbing to one particular position.

There are three themes to this Code: Breaker manga. But they'll remain a secret for now!! I have the feeling that the readers will have no problem picking up on them from the manga.

■ Ôgami Mystery

Just wait for the introduction of Maeshun and other 1-B classmates in Volume 2!

← Continued on P.197

CODE:BREAKER

code:04

To Face Tomorrow

Just what kind of person is Ôgami? What's that blue flame of his? Who are these "non existent" Code: Breakers? And why are they above the law?
I keep thinking about it, but no answers are coming...
The only thing I do know...

I'll bet he'll be at school acting like nothing ever happened, just like yesterday.
PACHAK
I, Sakura, am leaving for the day!!
...is that what he's doing is wrong!!
Good morning, Sakurakôji-san!
KRAHK

Ô-Ôgami?!
What are you doing here...
"What"? Why, waiting for you, of course! I decided I wanted to walk to school with Sakurakôji-san!
Huh?!
Wh-what are you talking about...? First of all, how do you know where I live?!
The phone book, naturally.
We're un-listed!
The class direc-tory.
The only personal information there is my parent's cellphone numbers.
Oh, is that so? I didn't know that!
So you just refuse to answer?
So...he's keeping really close tabs on me, and if I let his secret get out, he'll go on a burning rampage? If that's the case...

If you want to keep me under observation, then go ahead. I'm not hiding from you!
Observation?
Come on, Sakurakôji-san! You're my precious classmate. I'm not here to keep you under observation!
Eh?!
Or maybe I should say...
There you go, making me sound like a bug again...
Wha...?!
I'm just watching the behavior of a Deviant Breed.

What……?
Wait...
Stop...

Your ribbon's askew.

I don't mind wearing it like this.
A-ah... This...
Really? Is that so?
Eh?
What is this guy, really?
Those eyes... Like they're sizing me up.

Sakurakôji
Sakura-sama
Sakura-sama
Good morning, Sakura!! Ôgami-kun!!
You look a lot better, Sakura-chin!
Wow! I never thought you two would come to school as a couple!!
Really, I wonder about this.
...
ぷっ

Yes, as you see, the two of us arrived at school together.
Did you see that, Ôgami-kun? Impressive, isn't it?
Sakura may not look it, but all the boys are entranced by her! She's the school's Madonna!
But she doesn't date anyone, and nobody is her boyfriend. So everybody's gunning for the position.
But now that you're here, she's getting even more letters than before!
Eh? Why is that?
Well... ♡ It's because...
……
Ôgami!!
Wait a...
I-I forbid you to get any closer to Sakurakôji-san!!

Stop it!!
BNKK
Sa...
Sakura?!
Don't you dare touch him!
If you're intent on fighting him, you fight me first!!
They don't know how dangerous Ōgami is!! One false move against him, and it could cost them their lives!!
S-Sa-kura...

You love Ôgami that much?!!
She's serious, huh?
Yeah...
But the game isn't over yet...!!
Y-you're kidding...
Every-body!!
We're starting homeroom! Everybody into the classroom!
Kanda-sensei is in glasses and a jersey again today!
I think a lack of sex appeal is Kanda-sensei's best part!
AH HA HA
Ôgami-sama
090-XXXX-XXXX

Ôgami-kun!! You got one, too?!
きゃあぁ♡
You're kidding!! Who? Who's it from?!
Oh, no! You mean this is the entrance of Sakura's rival in love?!
What'll you do?!
Why is it always him?!
Just a present and a cellphone number! That's a strange love letter!
Why don't you give her a call?
...
Yeah!

BRRRRNG
BRRRRNG
BRRRRNG
Yes?
PEEP
What?

TALKING
…Did you see your "present"?
What was that all about? I don't appreciate it.
No need to be harsh. Please accept it! I'm sure it will serve you well.
…
Anyway, we have your next request. We hope you're on board.
YEP
Yeah. I'll do it.

How long do you plan on skulking there, Sakurakôji-san?
Wh...
When did you notice...?
S-so who were you on the phone with just now?! I couldn't hear too well, but that present and phone call weren't from some girl telling you that she loves you!!
You're planning to do some new awful thing, aren't you?! I can tell!!
Do you really want to know?
SST
Eh?

ペロッ
POIT
?!
D...
Dog?!
But Dog's dead...
.....
Dog's puppy.
ちょんっ
CHUNK

It had a puppy?!
That makes sense. That's why such a skittish dog would still take food from me.
Its face looks exactly like Dog's!!
And its eyes!
And those whiskers!
And its eye-brows...
Even its manner-isms...
They're...
...just like...
Saku-rakôji-san?

Forgive me...
I always thought your mother...
...was a coward, but...
Sh-she tried to save my life...
and then...
I'm so sorry!!
If I had been even a little better...
...you'd still have...

ぽしっ

As I felt the warmth of that little life, I couldn't help but feel strongly that I must never forget the events of that night!!
I didn't interpret it as being forgiven... But... But it was so warm...
HUGG

BASH

Why do both mother and child warm up to Ôgami?!
SNEAK
SNEAK

All right!! From today on, your name will be "Puppy"!!
?!
TWITCH
And I will raise you, like the mother that Dog would have been! Let's be friends, okay, Puppy?!

If he's going to have regrets, then why...

But if so, why did he do that to Dog without a moment's hesitation?

Okay, what are we here for, Ôgami?
PANIC
PANIC
PANIC
Where are you...
H-hey, Puppy?!
!!
SCAMPER
SCAMPER
SCAMPER
Since I just followed him without permission, I guess he doesn't have to answer me...

Huhn?
Who the hell are you?!
How'd you get in here?!
GWOO

...a yakuza hangout?!
Th-this is...
ZHA
Fewer than I expected. This will be over quickly.
PONT
What crap do you think you're spouting?
Huh? What are you sayin'?! Ain't you listening?!
What else would you expect?

I'm going to murder all of you trash.

code:05

Frightened Devils

Ha ha ha ha ha!! You hear that? He's gonna kill us!
I'm saying that I'm going to murder you trash.
Huh?!
I don't really think you can do much with your bare hands!
And now that G-Falcon has been wiped out, you have to sell off your inventory yourself, huh? How frustrating for you.
Ah, so this is the cache of drugs that's been circulating throughout town?
You punk... Who's organization are you in?!
But my question is, with you being so open in your sales, why haven't the police pigs been able to catch you?
You're the one who took them out?!
!!

I'm in Class 1-B.
Now that you know, you can all burn to ashes!
PACHI!
GRUNCH
CH
RYUUN
You little... Do you know the street price of that?!
Th-that was the good stuff!!
You're the guy who took out G-Falcon? Even if that's a bluff, you got guts, brother.
Well? Why don't you sign up with us? I like the look in your eyes. I can promise that your wages will be three times this.
What do you say?
You can make good money selling that stuff, but there are even more profitable ventures out there.

I need... more of my medicine...
Please... I need more...
Wha...?!
You take the idiots who can't pay back their high-interest loans, hook them on "medicine," and get them to do our dirty work. Profits abound!
They'll do whatever you say.
...And when they've outlived their usefulness...
You off 'em and sell their organs. More profit!
But he's still got outstanding loans, so we hook his wife and daughter on the stuff and get them to sell their bodies to pay it back. Not a resource wasted, right?

But that's the times we're living in! You show me a guy in money trouble, and I'll show you so many ways to profit, you can't stop laughing!!
You can't ask for better than that!! Ha ha ha ha ha!!
We're fixed so we're never going to get caught!!
But even better: We've got some of the strongest allies possible so we don't have a worry in the world!!

Ha...
Burn to ashes!

GWOOOH
Eh...?! No... N-Nitta-san?!
Wh-what?! Where'd that fire come from?!
Y-you bas-tard!! What did you do?!
ZUU
GRASS
No, Ôgami... I'm not letting you commit murder! Not while I'm watching!!
What you're doing won't solve anything...

?!
ô-
ôgami...
Wha...?!

Don't give me crap, you little punk!!
OOH
DWO
?!
You shouldn't underestimate the yakuza! That thick little neck of yours could get broken...
GUH

ばん ばん
PORT
PORT
KRAK
Uwaa!! It burns...
Eeee !!
GANCH
Gyaah!! S-save me...
Y-you idiot!! Don't come near me!!
Wha...?!
000
000
BLAM
BLAM
Hah!! I don't care who you are, you can't win against my two friends here!!

ギュルル!
ギュルル!!
ギュルル!!!

Huh?!
Why don't bullets work on the brat?! Ain't he even human...?!
Wh-what the hell is this blue fire?!

You mon-ster!!
Y...
An eye for an eye.
A tooth for a tooth.

Evil for evil.

ゴオ
ゴオ
ゴオ

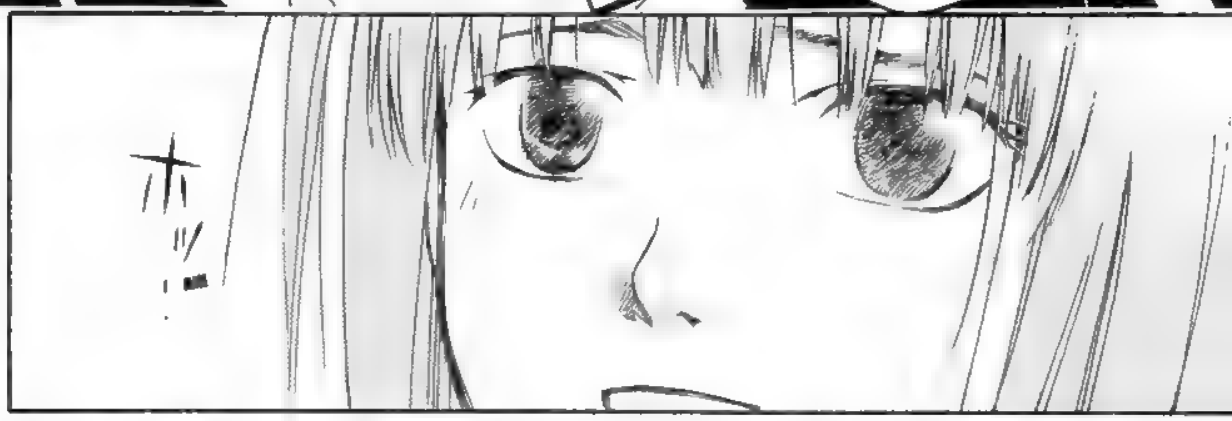
LIKK
LIKK
LIKK
LIKK
You may be this Code: Breaker or whatever, but don't let it go to your head!!
GASPH
KLINCH
You...
Ôgami...
KRAKL
KRAKL

Could you have saved that victim we saw using your logic?
How about the homeless man who was killed?
And Puppy's mother, Dog. Could you have saved her, too?
You can try to change things through force, but it doesn't work!!
If killing them was all it took to rid evil from the world, we'd have done it ages ago!!
The only way to silence them is through force.
It's a joke! Words don't reach that trash!

This is... blood?!
Well, it doesn't really matter to me anyway.
Wha...?!
"Doesn't matter"...?
When you look real close...
...he's got scars covering his whole body. He's got that blue fire, but he's no superman. If you cut him, he bleeds...just like me...like any normal body.
If it really "doesn't matter," then why...
...why hurt yourself like this...?

D-don't move!!
You're under arrest for suspicion of murder!! Come quietly!!
Wait, Ôgami!!
These are just police responding to a disturbance!!
They protected me from those yakuza guys!!
Are you really prepared to pick a fight against Japanese law like this?!
Give yourself up, Ôgami!!

Fine! I'm not going to show any resistance! I surrender!



Eh? Okay...
Anyway, Miss... You'd better get some distance from him. Come over here.

GRRR
GRRR

It's all right now...
"All witnesses would be made to vanish."
N...

No!! Stop, Ôgami!!
to be continued

Kamijyo Info

The Fate of a School Idol

...she goes in a jersey that she had in her bag.
After being attacked by G-Falcon, Sakura heads directly to school, so...
GLANCE
GLANCE
GLANCE
I know that nobody attends school wearing a jersey, and I'll attract everyone's attention, but I have bigger worries than that.
Hm?
Finally, I'm back in a regular school uniform!
The next day...
KYAAA
KYAA
Here I am in my jersey!
I just had to dress the way Sakurakôji-san did yesterday!
The look was just too cute!
The "look" had caught on.

Now, in volume 2, the story moves in big new directions. What kind of person is Ôgami?! And how will Sakura react to him...?! How about new characters? What about Puppy?! (ha ha) There will be a lot of high school life and Rei's job in volume 2!! Let's meet again there!

Thanks to everyone who sent me letters or presents! The very core of my energy comes from your support and words of encouragement! And just like you wanted, we're going to revive the Postcard Corner!! Please take up Kamijyo's challenge!!

Continued on the back cover!

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

The Transfer Student in the Dramas, page 24
One of the most-used clichés in Japanese high school drama is the "transfer student" who suddenly arrives to shake up the established order of love relationships or high school politics.

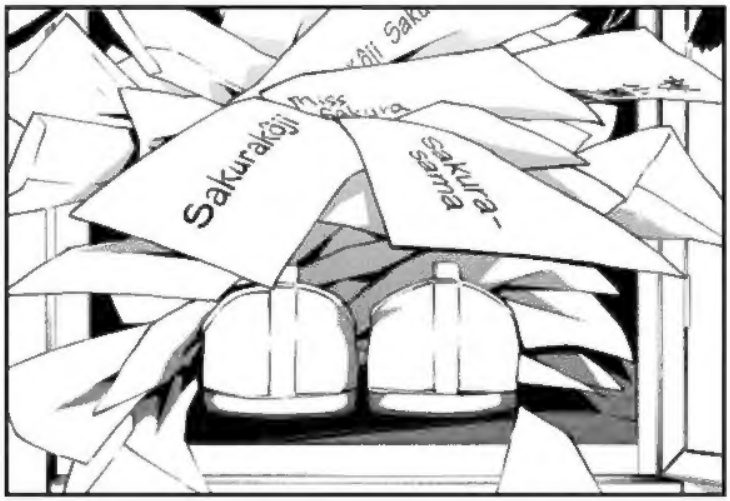
Confession of Love, page 25
A rite of passage for anyone who has a crush in Japan seems to be the confession of love. It usually involves asking the person to go someplace private where one admits, in one form or another, that one likes the person.

Tacks in His Slippers, page 30
Just like love letters can be left in one's shoe locker (see note on page 201), other not-so-welcome things can be left there as well. One of the nastier tricks has been to leave tacks, pointy end facing up, taped to the inside sole section of a rival's slipper, so the rival will impale him- or herself when putting on the slipper.

WC, page 30
For those who have never encountered this term, WC stands for "water closet" and is a somewhat outdated term for bathroom that is still used in Japan.

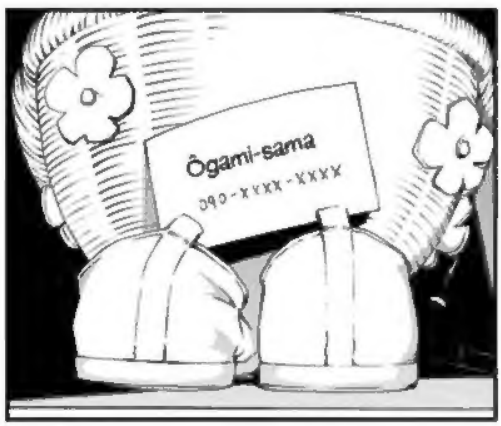
Walking Three Steps Behind, page 106
In Japan's medieval times (until the mid-1800s), it was the Japanese custom for women to walk three steps behind their husbands. After the Meiji Restoration and Japan's rush to catch up to the modern world, this custom began to fade, and now it is almost nonexistent (but still romantically idealized).

Shibuya, page 107
One of the "city centers" of Tokyo (others include the Ginza, Shinjuku, Ueno, Ikebukuro, etc.), and best known for its fashionable shops, theaters, restaurants, clubs, and other outlets mainly oriented toward young people. It is considered one of the great date spots of Tokyo.



Love Letters in the Shoe Locker, page 154
One of the traditional ways to leave a love letter in a Japanese school is to leave it in the recipient's shoe locker. (We refer to it as a locker, but it is hardly ever locked.) All students use their shoe locker each time they enter or leave the building, so it is a place one can be sure one's notes will be found. Other, not-so-welcome messages may be left there as well (see Tacks in His Slippers, page 200).

Sakura-chin, page 154
There are many cute honorifics that are similar to "-chan," which is listed in the honorifics section at the front of this book. Some, such as "-chin" and "-tan," are very widespread and one comes upon them often.



090-xxxx-xxxx, page 157
If you substitute the Xs for numbers, the format is what cellphone numbers look like in Japan. Cellphones bought in the Tokyo area start with the 090 prefix.